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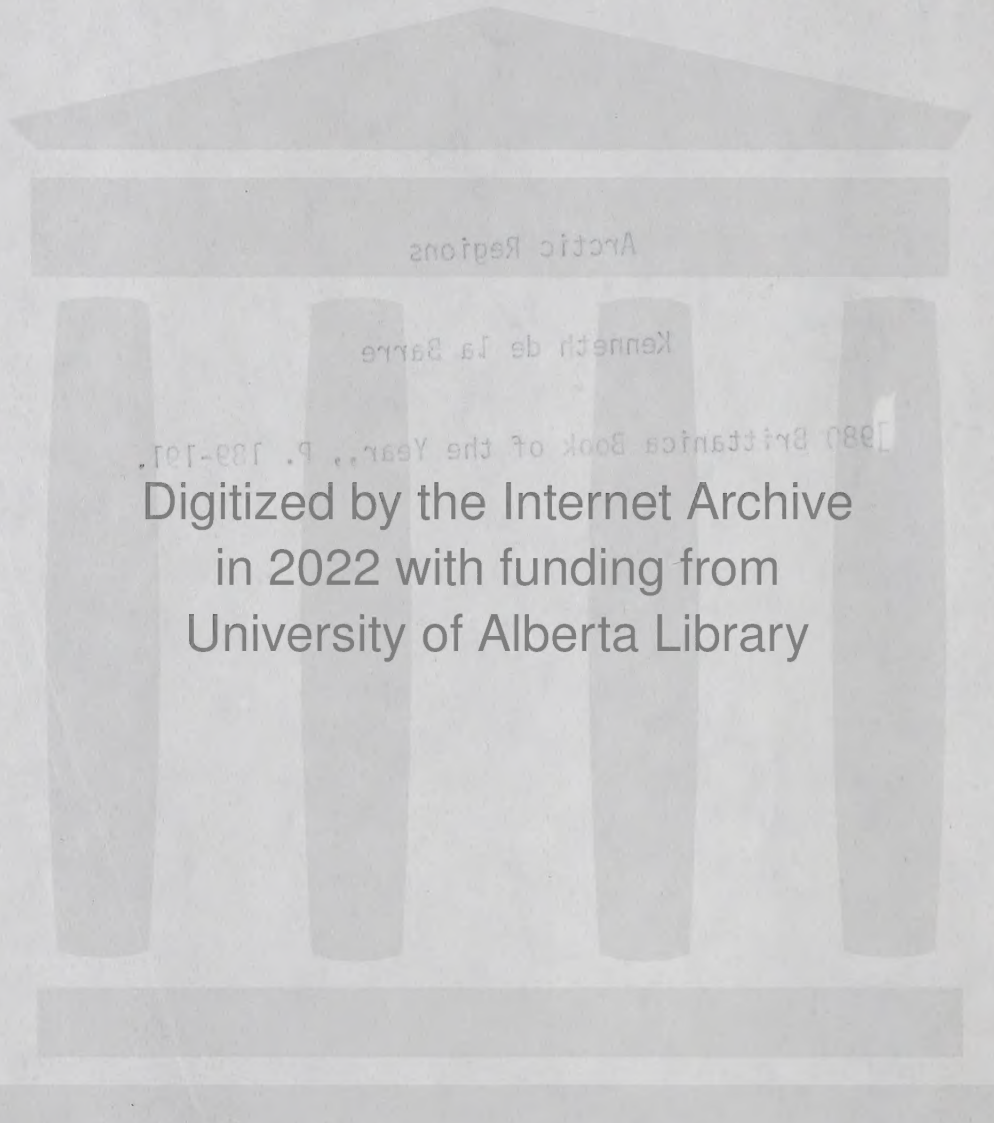
Arctic Regions

Kenneth de la Barre

1980 Brittanica Book of the Year,, P. 189-191.

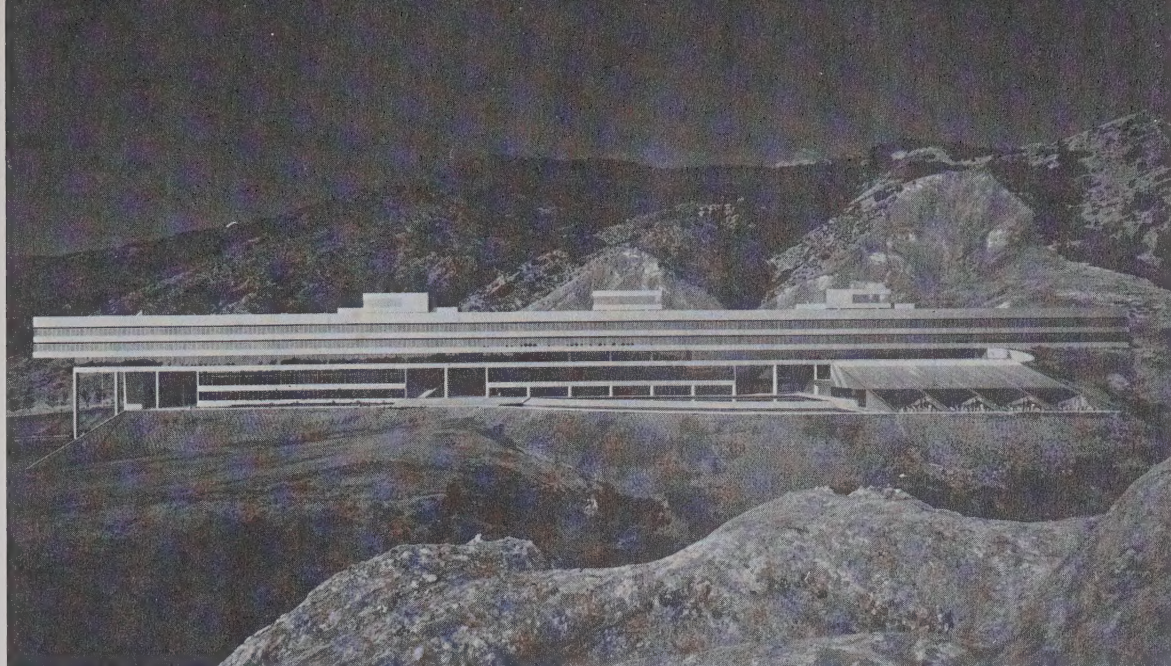
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NICK WHEELER—AIA

The 1979 AIA Honor Award went to The Architect's Collaborative, Inc. for its design of the Johns-Manville World Headquarters building in Jefferson County, Colorado.

in an abstracted classical manner made reference to the Beaux-Arts detailing of neighbouring Grand Central Station but was perhaps also influenced by Philip Johnson's American Telephone and Telegraph Co. tower with its broken pediment feature.

Cultural, Religious, and Educational Buildings.

The Denver Symphony Orchestra acquired a worthy new concert facility, the Boettcher Concert Hall, part of the Denver Center for the Performing Arts. The hall was the first in the U.S. to seat the audience in a 360° circle around the orchestra and was designed in such a way as to ensure that no member of the audience would be more than 85 ft from the stage. In fact, 80% of the audience can be seated within 65 ft of the stage. The aesthetic effect of the interior grows out of acoustical requirements, and the asymmetric arrangement of the banks of seats for 2,750 in itself provides visual interest. The architects, Hardy Holzman Pfeiffer Associates, were asked to try to re-create the atmosphere of an outdoor concert amphitheatre.

A fine new cathedral for the Roman Catholics in Burlington, Vt., recalled that city's historic architecture. Edward Larrabee Barnes, architect of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, drew inspiration from H. H. Richardson's 19th-century Romanesque Revival Billings Library at the University of Vermont, using coloured masonry, whereby glazed bricks in green and brown are arranged in horizontal bands, and a prominent roof of seamed copper. The church replaced a large one that was destroyed by fire and translated traditional requirements into modern technology and design ideals. The plan was arrow-shaped, and inside was an impressive tentlike structure with a Greek cross of blue stained glass over the west door, reminiscent of the rose windows of Romanesque and Gothic churches.

Another fine contemporary church was that at Bagsværd, near Copenhagen, Den., by architect Jørn Utzon, designer of the Sydney Opera House. The calm yet magnificent structure is long and low with an emphatic concrete tent marking the span of the main sanctuary.

Melbourne, Australia, also sought a landmark—a city symbol that it hoped would become as fa-

mous as the Eiffel Tower in Paris or the Sydney Opera House. A competition with a prize of \$100,000 was held for such a landmark, to grace an 80-ac site.

(SANDRA MILLIKIN)

See also Engineering Projects; Historic Preservation; Industrial Review.

[626.A.1-5; 626.C]

Arctic Regions

Greenland adopted home rule in 1979, thereby ending 250 years of Danish colonial control. Denmark's Queen Margrethe II formally marked the change of status for the world's largest island (2.2 million sq km) and its 50,000 inhabitants by giving a copy of the Home Rule Act to the new local legislature. The official name chosen for the ice-encrusted island was Kalâtdlit Nunât, "Our Land" in Eskimo.

During the year the Alaska Highway gas pipeline, one of the largest and most publicly discussed projects in North American history, moved closer to reality. In July U.S. Pres. Jimmy Carter pledged that the nearly 8,000-km (5,000-mi) pipeline network (stretching from Prudhoe Bay in Alaska through Canada to markets as far away as Chicago and San Francisco) would be built with strong backing from the White House.

In October Soviet officials endorsed the principle of a multibillion-dollar natural-gas pipeline across the Bering Strait to serve North American markets. The plan would link production from eastern Siberian natural-gas fields via a 600-km pipeline, including 32 km between the extreme points of Siberia and Alaska. The proposal, which had been in the conceptual stage for several years, became a more viable proposition after the decision had been made to proceed with the Alaska Highway gas pipeline, with which the Siberian pipeline would be connected.

The U.S. Supreme Court in June agreed to hear a dispute between the state of Alaska and the federal government over who owns offshore areas of the Beaufort Sea. At stake were about 15% of 514,000 ac scheduled for a lease sale in December. The

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Arctic Regions

federal government contended that state ownership extends only to the three-mile limit. Alaskan North Slope natives and environmental groups opposed the lease sale, mostly on the grounds that exploration activity would disrupt the wildlife in the area.

In June Esso Resources Canada Ltd. confirmed the existence of a 600-million-bbl oil find at Norman Wells in the Mackenzie Valley area of the Northwest Territories. Oil was first discovered there by Imperial Oil Ltd. in 1920.

The National Energy Board of Canada began public hearings in October on applications to move Alaskan crude oil to markets in the U.S. Middle West. Foothills Oil Pipeline Ltd. was seeking to build a 34-in-diameter pipeline from the Alyeska pipeline south of Fairbanks, Alaska, to Edmonton, Alta., a distance of about 2,500 km. The oil pipeline would be constructed in the same corridor already approved for the proposed Alaska Highway gas pipeline and was estimated to cost between \$1 billion and \$2 billion, depending on the precise route selected. This project proposal was in direct competition with the Northern Tier Pipeline project, an all-U.S. route extending from Washington State to the East Coast, which had been favoured by U.S. Secretary of Energy James Schlesinger.

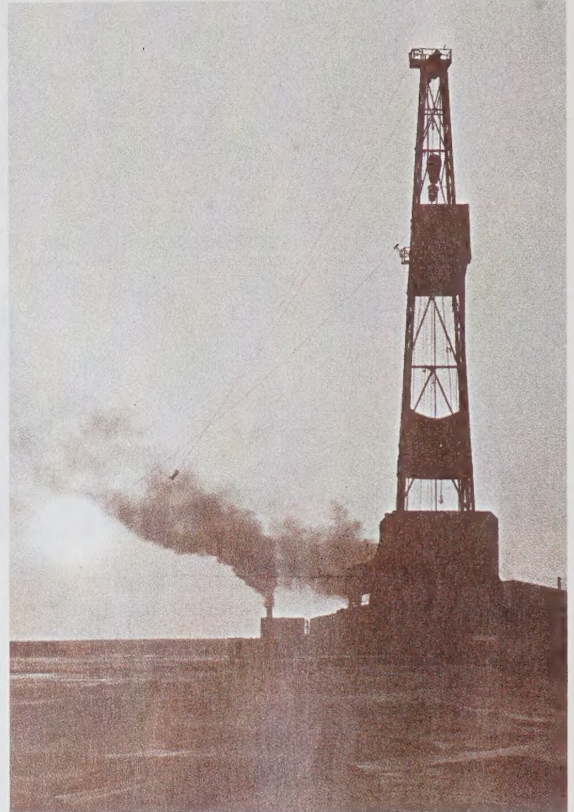
Panarctic Oils Ltd. announced in May the discovery of major new reserves of natural gas in the Arctic islands. Indications were that the well might prove to be the single largest gas accumulation yet found in the Arctic regions.

A group of seven Soviet skiers reached the North Pole after a 1,000-mile trip across the Arctic ice. It took the skiers 2½ months to complete the journey.



TASS/ISOVOTO

GULF CANADA/CANADIAN PRESS



A Canadian drilling rig stands silhouetted against the nighttime Arctic sky about 140 miles from the magnetic North Pole. The well produces about 8.1 million cubic feet of gas per day.

Twenty years after the beginning of a northern roads construction program, the Dempster Highway, Canada's first all-weather road to cross the Arctic Circle, was officially opened in August. The 671-km highway extends from the Klondike Highway in the Yukon to the Red River in the Northwest Territories.

The "M.V. Arctic," the only Canadian ice-strengthened bulk carrier capable of operating in the high Arctic for several months of the year, completed its first six months of operation in August. Tests proved its ability to operate successfully as an icebreaker and to sustain forward motion in two to three feet of ice.

In Canada a national campaign by Indian and Eskimo associations began in March to protest the federal government's lack of progress in settling native land claims. The associations also charged that the government was allowing large-scale developments to proceed in areas where native people had not surrendered their land rights.

The residents of the tiny settlement of Baker Lake in the Northwest Territories pitted themselves against the federal government of Canada and a group of mining companies that wished to explore an 80,000-sq-km (30,000-sq-mi) area surrounding the community. The natives claimed that exploration for uranium was causing changes in caribou migration patterns. The implications of a court decision could be significant, since the case would be argued on the basis of rights to hunt without disturbance on lands the Eskimos have used for hundreds of years.

Alaskan Eskimo walrus hunters agreed in May to help conduct a study of the walrus population in the Bering and Chukchi seas. A population of 200,000 had been estimated, and there was concern by some biologists that the walruses were near a state of overpopulation.

As part of a study to determine the effects of encroaching civilization on the wild musk-ox, 16 animals were captured on Nunivak Island, Alaska, and brought to the University of Alaska in February. Musk-oxen had been hunted to extinction in Alaska, and the herds on Nunivak Island were descendants of musk-oxen imported from Greenland.

Hunters on Banks Island, Northwest Territories, were permitted to hunt 150 musk-oxen under a quota established by the Northwest Territories Fish and Wildlife Service. The herd, which numbered about 6,000 animals in 1978, was estimated to be growing at an annual rate of 10%.

In June a Canadian Broadcasting Corporation program was initiated to help the Eskimos of Greenland develop a closer acquaintance with Canadian Eskimos. The Canadian program was the counterpart of a Radio Greenland version that had been in operation for several years.

In April one of the largest known expeditions to the North Pole, Project LOREX (Lomonosov Ridge Experiment), was begun in order to study the Lomonosov Ridge, a mountain range on the floor of the Arctic Ocean. One theory suggests that the ridge was once part of the European continent.

A team of seven Soviet skiers reached the North Pole after 1,600 km (1,000 mi) and 2½ months on the Arctic ice. The Soviets had left Henrietta Island in the Arctic Ocean in March.

(KENNETH DE LA BARRE)

Argentina

The federal republic of Argentina occupies the southeastern section of South America and is bounded by Bolivia, Paraguay, Brazil, Uruguay, Chile, and the Atlantic Ocean. It is the second-largest Latin-American country, after Brazil, with an area of 2,758,829 sq km (1,065,189 sq mi). Pop. (1979 est.): 26,730,000. Cap. and largest city: Buenos Aires (pop., 1978 est., 2,982,000). Language: Spanish. Religion: mainly Roman Catholic. President in 1979, Lieut. Gen. Jorge Rafael Videla.

Pres. Jorge Rafael Videla continued in office in 1979, his second three-year term scheduled to end in March 1981. José Martínez de Hoz retained his post as minister of economy and as such was architect of the program to reorganize the economy along free-market lines; despite growing criticism of these policies, his position was strengthened after Cabinet reshuffles at the end of 1978. On Jan. 25, 1979, Brig. Gen. Orlando Ramón Agosti retired as commander in chief of the Air Force and was replaced in the ruling military junta by Gen. Omar Domingo Rubens Graffigna. At the end of the year Gen. Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri became commander in chief of the Army.

The beginning of 1979 was marked by the joint declaration on January 8 of the Chilean and Argen-

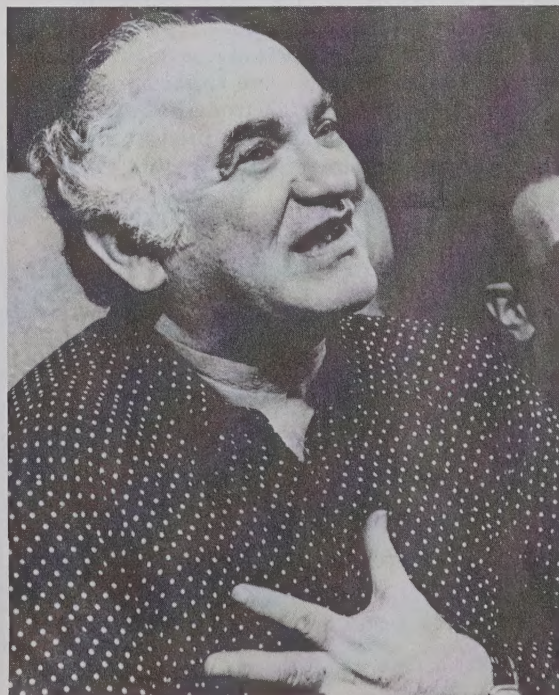
tine governments to refrain from war to settle their conflicting claims over the Beagle Channel islands and to accept the offer of mediation by Pope John Paul II. This reduced tension between the two countries.

Criticism of the government's economic policy intensified early in 1979, when the promised decline in the inflation rate failed to materialize. The minister of economy's measures, aimed at halving inflation (170% in 1978) during 1979, consisted basically of a January–August program of predetermined devaluations of the peso (at 5% a month, then falling to 4% a month) and limited increases in incomes (at 4% a month). Excluded was the reintroduction of price controls, considered contrary to the official free-market philosophy. When Martínez de Hoz returned to Argentina after a holiday early in the year, he had to face criticism from many segments of the population. Local industrialists complained that their products were having to compete with cheaper imports; workers charged that their purchasing power was eroding rapidly; and exporters maintained that the currency was overvalued.

Signs of dissatisfaction appeared among certain sectors of the Army, particularly among those officers responsible for Fabricaciones Militares (the weapons, munitions, chemicals, and steel manufacturer run by the Army). Sensing an opening for more discussion, the press gave greater coverage to criticism and statements from party politicians of the past, despite the strict censorship rules. Former president Arturo Frondizi and Ricardo Balbín, leader of the Radical Party, were among the first to gain the limelight; the latter had been detained repeatedly but sought to win some kind of official concession because his was the largest party in opposition before the March 1976 coup. Also, the leaders of the right-wing sector of the Justicialistas, the government party in 1976, signed a joint statement calling for elections and



Argentina



Argentine publisher Jacobo Timmerman was one of those interviewed by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, which looked into charges of human rights violations in Argentina.

Areas:
see Demography; see also the individual country articles

UPI



A Buenos Aires mother wears a sign demanding news of her son, one of thousands who have "disappeared" in Argentina.

changes in economic policies; this was followed by another signed petition from a wider range of politicians, including Socialists and Communists, also asking for an early return to democracy.

These events culminated in a call by a group of labour unionists, the Comisión de los 25, for a general strike on April 27. The government reacted by imprisoning the leaders of this union grouping and by announcing a 15% rise in wages and salaries above the minimum decreed for the month; moreover, negotiations with another group of trade unionists, the Comisión Nacional de Trabajo, led to their rejection of the general strike. Estimates were that only 25–30% of the workers took part in the work stoppage. All political activity on the part of unions was banned in November.

Fear of intimidation discouraged protests by the political opposition. Reports of unexplained disappearances of individuals were variously estimated at between 5,000 and 15,000 from the beginning of 1976. The government again refused to accept the validity of reports abroad, claiming they were the

result of an international campaign to discredit it, and invited the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States (OAS) to investigate the allegations. President Videla did, however, state that there had been "a civil war" in Argentina and that "all wars were dirty." Local human rights organizations claimed that the government was protecting the perpetrators of this situation. The incredulity of human rights organizations was increased in August when four of their offices were entered by the police on the order of a judge and documentation on more than 3,000 cases of disappearances prepared for the Inter-American Human Rights Commission was confiscated. Nonetheless, the commission in September carried out inspections of prisons and detention centres and collected information from victims' families. The government meanwhile decreed that those reported missing should be presumed dead for legal purposes.

The armed forces, on the other hand, were able to progress, if laboriously, toward the reconciliation ("compatibilization") in one document of the three sets of political proposals prepared separately by each branch of the forces in 1978. Unofficial reports indicated that the Army's view of a gradual return to democracy would be upheld, without fundamental alterations to the constitution or restrictions as to party organization like those in Brazil, as had been suggested by the Air Force. In September, however, a right-wing general in charge of the 3rd Army Corps unsuccessfully challenged the authority of his commander in chief, Gen. Roberto Viola, for supporting what he saw as the government's increasingly "moderate" policy toward the left. General Galtieri's appointment was seen as further support for the moderate line.

The economy, meanwhile, began to grow again, with the gross domestic product increase in 1979 calculated at 7% (after a decline of approximately 4% in 1978), despite persisting inflation estimated at 140%. The recovery was concentrated in the construction sector, which helped to keep unemployment down to a minimum, as well as in the financial and farming communities. The nation's balance of trade continued to be favourable, mainly owing to the exceptionally high world price of beef. (PAUL DOWBOR)

ARGENTINA

Education. (1977) Primary, pupils 3,818,250, teachers 221,050; secondary, pupils 441,907, teachers 60,199; vocational, pupils 846,200, teachers 113,515; higher, students 536,450, teaching staff 42,500.

Finance. Monetary unit: peso, with (Sept. 17, 1979) a free rate of 1,436 pesos to U.S. \$1 (3,090 pesos = £1 sterling). Gold, SDR's, and foreign exchange (May 1979) U.S. \$6,873,000,000. Budget (1978 actual): revenue 3,404,000,000,000 pesos; expenditure 5,283,000,000,000 pesos. Gross national product (1975) 1,310,700,000,000 pesos. Money supply (May 1979) 10,187,900,000,000 pesos. Cost of living (Buenos Aires; 1975 = 100; May 1979) 9,217.

Foreign Trade. (1977) Imports 1,706,290,000,000 pesos; exports 2,274,040,000,000 pesos. Import sources: U.S. 19%; West Germany 10%; Brazil 9%; Japan 9%; France 5%; Italy 5%. Export destinations: The Netherlands 10%; Brazil 8%; Italy 8%; U.S. 7%; Japan 5%; Spain 5%; West Germany 5%; Chile 5%.

Main exports: meat 11%; wheat 10%; corn 9%; fruit and vegetables c. 6%; machinery c. 6%.

Transport and Communications. Roads (1977) 207,367 km. Motor vehicles in use (1976): passenger 2,588,000; commercial (including buses) 1,101,000. Railways: (1977) 37,951 km; traffic (1978) 11,242,000,000 passenger-km, freight 10,370,000,000 net ton-km. Air traffic (1978): 5,295,000,000 passenger-km; freight 128.6 million net ton-km. Shipping (1978): merchant vessels 100 gross tons and over 432; gross tonnage 2,000,879. Shipping traffic (1977): goods loaded 23,807,000 metric tons, unloaded 10,619,000 metric tons. Telephones (Jan. 1978) 2,584,800. Radio receivers (Dec. 1973) 21 million. Television receivers (Dec. 1974) 4.5 million.

Agriculture. Production (in 000; metric tons; 1978): wheat 8,100; corn 9,700; sorghum 7,360; barley 554; oats c. 676; millet 330; rice 310; potatoes 1,593; sugar, raw value c. 1,397; linseed 670; soybeans c. 2,400; sunflower seed c. 1,450; tomatoes

574; oranges 650; lemons c. 300; apples 810; wine c. 2,108; tobacco 62; cotton, lint c. 228; cheese 245; wool, clean 85; beef and veal c. 3,192; fish catch (1977) 393; quebracho extract (1977) 105. Livestock (in 000; June 1978): cattle 61,280; sheep c. 34,000; pigs c. 3,800; goats c. 3,200; horses (1977) c. 3,500; chickens c. 32,000.

Industry. Fuel and power (in 000; metric tons; 1978): crude oil 23,233; natural gas (cu m) c. 8,000,000; coal 434; electricity (excluding most industrial production; kw-hr) 29,052,000. Production (in 000; metric tons; 1978): cement 6,300; crude steel 2,564; cotton yarn 84; man-made fibres (1976) 51; petroleum products (1976) c. 21,700; sulfuric acid 240; paper (1976) c. 650; passenger cars (including assembly; units) 135; commercial vehicles (including assembly; units) 45. Merchant vessels launched (100 gross tons and over; 1978) 25,300 gross tons.

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